EXPOSITION.

1. Doers of the Word. James 1:21-25.

Jas.1:21-25. Doers of the Word and not Hearers Only.

I. Wherefore

In order that we may yield ourselves to the divine influence, let us prepare our hearts.

Eph.4:25 Wherefore, putting away falsehood, speak ye truth each one to his neighbor: for we are members one to another.

II. Putting away all filthiness

A metaphor---the putting off of clothes.

Heb.12:1 Therefore let us also, seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

Rom.13:12 "let us therefore cast off the works of darkness and let us put on the armor of light."

Eph.4:22 Col.3:5,8,9,10,12,13.

Dress and character. The dirty rags of self-justification.

Is.64:6 "All our righteousness are as a polluted garment."

Matt.22 The wedding garment.

Re'.3:4 But thou hast a few names in Sardis that did not defile their garments: and they shall walk with me in white for they are worthy.

Self-justification { "I am as good as you are" / Kindergarten ground / Psalm Tree }

III. and overflowing of malice { spite / grudge / figure } { bitterness / rancor / malignity }

Lk.6:45 "The evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil"

Evil words from the heart--~~welling up~~ welling up like water in a fountain. They must be stopped at their source.

The heart must be cleaned from all filthiness and malice before the Word of the Gospel can be received.

IV. with meekness

The opposite of self-justification and speaking evil of others for the purpose of self-exaltation.

Jas.3:13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by his good life his works in meekness of wisdom.

1Peter3:15 Gal.6:1 2Tim.2:24 Pro.11:2

V. receive ye the implanted word
The rooted word. That which roots itself in the heart like a seed in the good soil.
Matt.13:21 1 Thess.2:13
The Gospel message of Christ.

VI. which is able to save your souls.
1 Peter 1:9 Jn.5:24 Rom.1:16

VII. Be ye doers of the word
He who refuses to obey law virtually says there ought not to be any law. He who speaks against a brother speaks against the law of brotherhood. Jas.4:11.
R.Chananiah used to say, "Whosesoever works are in excess of his wisdom, his wisdom shall stand; but whosesoever wisdom is in excess of his works, his wisdom stands not."

VIII. and not hearers only deluding your own selves.
An attendant at a lecture or at the reading of the Scripture in the synagogue.
On such the Word has no abiding influence.

IX. for if one is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding himself in a mirror
1 Cor.13:12 2Cor.3:18
The Word will show us what needs to be cleansed and amended in our lives as the mirror in regard to our bodies.
a/ it shows us exactly what we are.
b/ it points out tu us what we ought to be.
c/ it directs us in our becoming like unto the perfect

X. for he beholdeth himself and goeth away
"Just a glance and he is off."
hasty inspection= careless hearing -

XI. and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.
A mere hearer [illegible] immediately dismisses the Word fr drom his mind, hence soon forgets all about his dirtiness and imperfections.

XII. But he that looketh
"bending over the mirror in order to examine more closely.
Mary looking into the sepulchre. Jn.20:5,11.

XIII. <u>at the perfect law, the law of liberty</u>

1. The law of liberty.
   a/ the law which frees from sin and death
   b/ the law which is freely accepted.
2. The perfect law of Christ.
   Jas. 2:8, 12 Rom. 3:27; 8:2. Gal. 6:2
   perfect because it fulfils all law.

XIV. <u>and so continueth,</u>

XV. <u>being not a hearer that forgetteth but a doer that worketh</u>

XVI. <u>this man shall be blessed in his doing</u>.
   Jn 13:17 If ye know these things, blessed are ye if ye do them.
   Jas. 1:12
   Job 5:17 Behold, blessed is the man whom God correcteth.

The Word must be made the rule of life in order to become for us a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our pathway.

Mt. 7 24 ff.

PARAPHRASE of Jas.1:19-25.

Since you know that it is God who of his own good pleasure has infused a new life into us by means of the preaching of the Word, listen with eagerness to the Word which comes from Him, remembering that it is not something to talk about or fight about, but to receive into our heart and to manifest into our actions. Human passion and bitterness are not pleasing to God or productive of the righteousness which God requires, and which He alone can give. Therefore begin by putting away all that unkindness which is so ready to overflow the lips and defile the man; and then open your hearts to receive in meekness the Word sown, which is able to save the soul. Do not however deceive yourselves with the idea that it is enough to be hearers of the Word without carrying it into action. Such a hearer is like a man who, looking at his face in the mirror, gives one glance and is gone, and at once forgets what he was like. If we wish to make a right use of the heavenly mirror, the Word which shows us what we are and what we should be, we must not be satisfied with a hasty glance, we must give our minds to it; we must embrace it as the law of our lives and never lose sight of it. Only thus will God's blessing attend our actions.